

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 10563 192000Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15

NSC-05 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7410

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO ISREAL

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ERICH BIELKA WILL VISIT ISRAEL
DECEMBER 21-24 AT INVITATION OF FM ALLON. WE UNDERSTAND
HE WILL REMAIN IN ISRAEL FOR PRIVATE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

2. BIELKA TOLD PRESS DECEMBER 18 MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT WOULD BE MAIN
SUBJECTS OF HIS TALKS WITH ISRAELIS. HE SAID AUSTRIAN
GOVERNMENT BELIEVED PREREQUISITES FOR SOLUTION OF MIDDLE
EAST PROBLEM WERE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST
AS STATE AND RECOGNITION OF PALESTINIANS' RIGHT TO
"HOMELAND OF THEIR OWN."

3. BIELKA SAID AUSTRO-ISRAELI RELATIONS WERE GOOD BUT
COULD STILL BE EXPANDED, ESPECIALLY IN CULTURAL
AFFAIRS FIELD. ASKED IF WIESENTHAL-PETER-KREISKY
AFFAIR WOULD NOT BURDEN ATMOSPHERE OF VISIT, BIELKA
REPLIED THAT ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAD ASSURED AUSTRIAN
AMBASSADOR THAT ISRAELIS CONSIDERED AFFAIR PURELY
INTERNAL AUSTRIAN MATTER, SOLUTION OF WHICH HAD NO
BEARING UPON GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES.

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 10563 192000Z

4. COMMENT: DISCLAIMER CONCERNING EFFECT OF WIESENTHAL

IMBROGLIO NOTWITHSTANDING, VISIT COMES AT AWKARD
MOMENT BUT PROBABLY NONE TOO EARLY TO KEEP GOA'S MIDDLE
EAST RELATIONS IN BALANCE, ESPECIALLY SINCE CHANCELLOR
KREISKY WILL EXTEND HIS SERIES OF VISITS TO ARAB
STATES TO ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES IN 1976.BUCHANAN

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